



ALUMNI

# WALL OF FAME

*Celebrating Past Excellence,  
Inspiring the Future.*

April 7th, 2025  
10:00 am | The Pavilion  
NGM Major High School Campus

# RATIONALE

THE BUCKLEY'S ALL AGE SCHOOL (1910-1976) AND N.G.M. MAJOR HIGH SCHOOL (1976-PRESENT), AS ONE TRANSITIONAL LEARNING INSTITUTION, HAS BEEN IN EXISTENCE FOR 114 YEARS. THE SCHOOL HAS DISTINGUISHED ITSELF FOR DECADES AS A LEADING BAHAMIAN PUBLIC EDUCATION INSTITUTION. THE LEADERSHIP OF MR. NELSON G.M. MAJOR (1941-1972) WAS HERALDED AS A WATERSHED ERA FOR THE SCHOOL IN ACADEMICS, AGRICULTURE, ATHLETICS, AND THE ARTS.

THE LONG LIST OF STUDENTS WHO COMPLETED/GRADUATED FROM THE SCHOOL WHO HAVE DISTINGUISHED THEMSELVES IN ALL FACETS OF SOCIETY SHOULD BE COMMEMORATED. THE WALL OF FAME WILL BE A MEMORIAL TO THE EXCELLENCE OF THE SCHOOL IN THE CONTEXT OF THE BAHAMIAN SOCIETY. FUTURE GENERATIONS OF STUDENTS WILL HAVE A TANGIBLE SPACE TO VIEW AND REFLECT ON ALUMNI WHO HAVE PAVED THE WAY AS ROLE MODELS OF THE SCHOOL/COMMUNITY.



ALUMNI  
WALL OF  
FAME



## *Hon. Glenys Hanna Martin*

### **MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING**

The effects of education are acutely depicted through the quality of the social, economic, and environmental development of our society. Therefore, those who drive this process are immensely critical to our success as a nation.

It is against this backdrop, that we honour the memory of the late Nelson G.M. Major, whose leadership was heralded as a watershed era for this great institution in academics, agriculture, sports, and the arts.

His legacy of excellence was perpetuated throughout generations of students that passed through the halls of NGM Major High School.

I am pleased to celebrate the outstanding alumni of this institution who have shaped the lives of so many, and whose brilliant work and innate passions are evident throughout various sectors of society. The honourees being named on the school's Wall of Fame continue to pay it forward through their invaluable contributions to our country's development.

As each honouree models the highest standards of excellence in their personal and professional lives, it is hoped that their attitudes and actions will be exemplified by each student enrolled in NGM Major High School.

Honourees, hearty congratulations are extended to you, the first cohort to be named on this prestigious Wall of Fame. You have truly set high standards in education that are crucial for preparing individuals for a complex and ever changing world.

May God continue to bless and prosper the alumni and family of NGM Major High School.





*Hon. Adrian Gibson, MP*

**MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR LONG ISLAND**

It is with great pride and admiration that I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the honorees being celebrated at this special ceremony recognizing the outstanding alumni of Buckley's All Age School (1910–1976) and its successor, NGM Major High School (1976–present).

For over a century, these institutions have been pillars of education in Long Island, shaping the minds and character of generations. The twenty distinguished alumni being honored today exemplify the excellence, perseverance and dedication that define our community. Your achievements, both past and present, stand as a testament to the enduring legacy of our schools and the transformative power of education.

You all serve as a beacon of inspiration for current and future generations of Long Islanders. I am proud to celebrate you, the honorees, for the remarkable strides you have made in your respective careers—whether in education, sports, business, medicine, law, public service, agriculture, or the maritime industry. You have made meaningful contributions to the growth and development of Long Island, strengthened our nation and left a lasting impact beyond our shores.

As we gather to recognize your contributions, let us also express our deepest gratitude to the educators, administrators and staff—past and present—who have played a pivotal role in guiding and molding so many. Their unwavering commitment has paved the way for success stories that continue to inspire.

To the students of NGM Major High School: May you be inspired by the examples set before you. Let this occasion remind you that with determination, discipline, and a strong educational foundation, you too can make meaningful contributions to your community and beyond.

Congratulations once again to all honorees. Your achievements make Long Island proud, and I wish you continued success in all your future endeavors.

Long Island Strong!





*Mrs. Lorraine Armbrister*

**PERMANENT SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF EDUCATION**

I am pleased to congratulate the honourees who have been inducted into the first cohort of NGM Major High School's Wall of Fame. You have truly exemplified a culture of excellence in education.

NGM Major High School has always been heralded as an institution of academic distinction, known to produce some of the best and brightest professionals in the nation. Our education community and others recognize the contributions of the outstanding alumni of this institution.

Honourees, your integration into various sectors of society continues to make an incredible impact on the economic prosperity and social development of The Bahamas. Not only are your contributions felt nationally, but your impact expands globally, as many of you are influential in areas which include education, business, media, the public service, medicine, the military, sports, arts and culture.

Benjamin Franklin said, "An investment in knowledge pays the best interest". Honourees, you have brilliantly utilized the knowledge and skills attained during your enrolment at the NGM Major High School as a fertile foundation to invest in positively influencing the lives of so many Bahamians through your work and contributions.

NGM Major High School was built on a legacy of excellence, as its long serving principal and patron, Nelson G.M. Major (1941-1972), pioneered the expansion of the curriculum, and served as the impetus for excellence in its execution.

I commend the leadership of NGM Major High School for ensuring that the outstanding achievements of the alumni are duly recognized and memorialized for present and future generations to emulate.

Once again, congratulations to all honourees inducted to the NGM Major High School's Wall of Fame.





*Mrs. Dominique McCartney Russell*  
**DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION**

I am delighted to celebrate the outstanding alumni of NGM Major High School on their well-deserved induction into the school's prestigious Wall of Fame.

The NGM Major High School Wall of Fame is a visionary initiative, serving as a lasting testament to the potential of every student who walks the halls of this illustrious institution. It reminds them that they, too, can become leaders, innovators, change-makers, and pioneers.

Since its establishment in the 1940s, NGM Major High School has earned its place as a premier public institution, thanks to the brilliance and dedication of its students, teachers, and administrators. This historic success owes much to the enduring legacy of its patron, Mr. Nelson Glanville Macfarlane Major. Under his guidance, the school—formerly known as The Buckley's All-Age School—rose beyond the small community of Long Island to achieve national acclaim in academics, agriculture, sports, and the arts. That tradition of excellence continues today with remarkable alumni such as Paloma Cartwright, the 2017 All Bahamas Merit Scholar, and Dakari Turnquest, the 2024 Head Boy and Valedictorian.

This year's Wall of Fame inductees exemplify the proud legacy of NGM Major High School, representing a diverse spectrum of professions and contributions that drive the advancement of Long Island and The Bahamas as a whole. Each of you has earned this extraordinary honor. May the NGM Major High School Wall of Fame continue to inspire generations of community and nation builders.

To all the honorees, keep blazing new trails, raising the bar, and shattering glass ceilings.

May God's blessings be with you always!





*Mr. Don B. Barr*

**DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT, EXUMAS, CAT ISLAND,  
LONG ISLAND, RAGGED ISLAND (ECIR) DISTRICT**

The N. G. M. Major High School has been a consistent beacon of academic and athletic excellence for many decades. Through its many past Principals and now with the retirement of another great stalwart, this baton has been passed from one outstanding leader to the other. As we acknowledge your past excellence and the significant milestones of this great institution, we note the significant contributions of your Principal Mr. Endal Adderley, a son of the soil who has distinguished himself as an educational leader of his generation.

This is the legacy of the N. G. M. Major High School and as we continue to celebrate your excellence, we are assured of your commitment of continuing to build upon a solid foundation and thus, inspiring the future.

I am reminded of the quote by the poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow which states:  
“The heights by great men reached and kept were not attained by sudden flight, but they while their companions slept, were toiling upward in the night.”

As we strive to build a better society for future generations, may your work and dedication to uphold the core values of education inspire others to take this mantle and continue to raise the standard of excellence for years to come.

May God richly bless the work of your hands.





*Mrs. Jandilee "Jenny" Archer*  
**FAMILY ISLAND ADMINISTRATOR, LONG ISLAND**

It is my pleasure and honour to bring greetings and salutations to all persons who will be inducted onto the Wall of Fame on the grounds of the prestigious NGM Major High School.

The Wall of Fame is a testament to the extraordinary accomplishments of past students from within our communities on Long Island, and it reflects the immeasurable impact they have had on countless lives. Their achievements define our history and their legacies will continue to shape our present and future.

I also wish to take this opportunity to congratulate the Principal, Board, and Organizing Committee for their tireless efforts—not only in establishing this meaningful tribute, but in preserving the memory and legacy of both the Buckley's All-Age School and N.G.M. Major High School. This initiative is also a fitting homage to the life and contributions of the school's esteemed patron, Mr. N.G.M. Major.

As the Family Island Administrator for Long Island, I am especially proud to say that I have had the privilege of knowing and working alongside some of the inductees. I can personally attest to their remarkable accomplishments and the invaluable contributions they have made to the growth and development of both Long Island and The Commonwealth of The Bahamas as a whole.

May this Wall of Fame stand as an enduring symbol of inspiration for generations to come.





*Mr. Endal Adderley, MEd*  
**PRINCIPAL, NGM MAJOR HIGH SCHOOL**

Today is a **RED LETTER** day in the life of “Buckley’s School”, as we celebrate some of the finest trailblazers who can proudly say that they have attended and have been shaped by the ethos of this fine institution. As a fellow alumnus, it gives me great pleasure to be the Principal on record to have taken a concept that was birthed over twenty years ago and brought it to this phase of development. On behalf of the School Board, PTA, Administration, staff, alumni, and community partners of this school, I welcome all of you to this historic campus for this momentous occasion.

The journey to this day has been a long one. I recall the discussion of creating a physical space to document our school’s heritage during the celebration of the centennial anniversary of our patron’s birth in 2004. The idea has lain dormant, but it is never too late to see such a worthy project come to fruition. The thousands of students who have passed through the doors of Buckley’s All Age School and NGM Major High School warrant the creation of such a memorial as a testament to the excellent standard that the school has become renowned for, despite the humble beginnings and ongoing challenges faced by our rural community setting.

Therefore, it is with humility that I stand on the great shoulders of former Headteachers and Principals who were all instrumental in shaping this institution into what it has become. I thank my hardworking and dedicated Advisory Team, the Wall of Fame Board, and the Organizing Committee for months of tireless brainstorming and crafting of plans with limited resources to bring this event about. I am eternally grateful to the Ministry of Education and Department of Education for their support of this project and for being here today to add credence to the significance of the event. To our honourees, I am indebted to you for agreeing to accept this recognition. I know that some of you would prefer to be in the background, but as Mr. Major would say, “what’s the use of being worth something, if no one knows but you”.

We look forward to celebrating with more of our alumni in the future as the bench is deep. This is only the beginning.

Mr. Endal Adderley, MEd  
Valedictorian, Class of 1987, NGM Major High School  
Teacher 1998-2013  
Vice Principal 2013-2016  
Principal 2016 - Present



# NGM MAJOR HIGH SCHOOL

## A LEGACY OF EXCELLENCE

The evolution of education in Deadman's Cay, Long Island began in the period immediately after the end of slavery when the Baptist missionaries arrived on Long Island and set up a small school in the area known as Turnquest's. According to oral sources, a Mrs. Catto provided instruction for a fee of 3d per week that was paid in cash or kind. Later in the 1880s, Mr. Virginius R. Ritchie, a trained accountant who had relocated to live on the island, established a Grant-in-Aid school in the Baptist Mission House and began formal classes for children within a seven-mile radius. He was best known for his Rule of Three teaching. This school was destroyed in the 1908 hurricane.

The Government established a new public school in January 1910 at Buckley's. This building still exists today and is affectionately known as the Big School. The first headmaster of Buckley's Public School was Mr. Garnet Gibson. He was given the task of organizing a formal education institution and he set the early tone by establishing the gallery and primers (Class 1-3) for the early learners, and the benches for the more advanced learners (Grades 1-3). The cane and the slate were the order of the day. Mr. G. Gibson left after two years. The school made steady progress under a number of headmasters, namely S.W. Johnson, O.H. Mason and J.L.Thompson Mr. C.I. Gibson became headmaster in 1917, and he introduced the Pupil Teachers Exam to the school to allow students to attend the Teachers Training School in Nassau. Nelson Major was one of those pupil teachers. Mr. C.I. Gibson was later succeeded by Mr. Anthony Smith, Mr. R.H. Culmer, Mr. Lance Smith (who introduced the Boys Scouts) and Mr. Mervin Gibson.

In 1941, Mr. Nelson Major became headmaster and set about to create the best public school, not only in the Out Islands, but in the country. Mr. Major who was a monitor at the age of 11 and a trained teacher at the age of 18, returned from a 15-year hiatus as a businessman to lead his alma mater. For the next 31 years, he built a school of excellence and established a benchmark of high standards that rivaled the best schools in the capital. During World War II, the school supported the Grow More Food initiative and quickly became renowned for its agricultural fairs, gardening club and animal husbandry. His 4-H Club thrived and students won many awards. These programs remained a hallmark during Mr. Major's tenure. Mr. Major was awarded a British Empire Medal in 1952 for his groundbreaking achievements in school-based agriculture innovation.



In academics, Mr. Major quickly moved the school from fourth place on the island to first place within two years. He introduced the School Leaving Certificate Exam and students began sitting the Bahamas Junior Certificate Exams and preparing for the Cambridge Senior Certificates. In those early days, candidates sitting the BJC had to pass ALL subjects in order to obtain a certificate. The school became synonymous with students capturing annual scholarships to attend the Government High School and other New Providence private schools to complete their high school education.

## A LEGACY OF EXCELLENCE

In cultural arts, Mr. Major created a nationally recognized choir and chorale that won annual awards at the National Arts Festival. This was the highlight of many young students who endured many grueling hours of training to attain the high standards that Mr. Major demanded. As time progressed, the school began to cater to all classes from Grades One to Ten. Lower Deadman's Cay and Mangrove Bush schools emerged as primary feeder schools for Buckley's All Age by the mid-1960s, when Buckley's All Age was designated as the secondary school for Long Island to allow students to sit the GCE O'Level exams. Mr. Major took on other roles as Supervisory Head Teacher for the Long Island schools and later as District Inspector for the entire Southern Bahamas, but his base remained at Buckley's All Age or Deadman's Cay Secondary School as it was designated by the late 1960s. Mr. Major formally retired in 1972. By then, the physical plant had grown to better accommodate the more than 200 students who attended the school at the time.

Following stints by Mr. Errol Bethel and Mr. Edward Anderson, Mr. Everette L. Cartwright, a protégé of Mr. Major, became the principal in 1976. This brought with it an unofficial name change to the school that has remained to this day. The school continued to excel in academics and became the test centre for the SAT exam. Students from as far north as Miller's and south as Gordon's braved the terrible roads and attended the only high school on the island. Despite the hardships, the school excelled in sports under longtime coach Claudius Anderson who won numerous softball, basketball and track and field championships during his tenure at the school. His invitational softball tournament eventually gave rise to the national high school tournament.

Mr. Everette Cartwright retired in 1986 and was succeeded by Mr. Lawrence (Larry) Cartwright, another alumnus of the school. He continued to maintain the fine reputation and standards of the school and ushered it through the changes of amalgamation and rivalry with the newly minted North Long Island High School.

In 1999, Mr. Cartwright retired, and the school was led by Mr. Marvin Rolle for two years. In 2001, Mr. Machon Cartwright assumed leadership over the school and oversaw the greatest transformation of the physical plant since its inception. Modern air-conditioned classrooms with internet access and secured premises were topped off with a modern Industrial Arts block in 2012. Since 2016, the school has been led by Mr. Endal Adderley, who has successfully navigated the school through the inception of the School Board and ensuring that the school transitioned successfully out of the Covid19 pandemic era.



**Headmasters and Principals of Buckley's All-Age & NGM Major High over the years.**

*(Special Thanks to Mr. Glen Major, son of Nelson G.M. Major for providing historical information.*

# NELSON GLANVILLE MACFARLANE MAJOR



NELSON GLANVILLE MACFARLANE MAJOR, B.E.M., J.P.

“NGM Major is remembered and respected as one of that breed of educators who made it their life's work to stimulate, encourage, and prepare a new generation of Bahamians for the job world. He was born at Burrows Harbour, Long Island, in 1904. He was schooled at the Buckley's Public School under such able teachers as Garnet Gibson, J.L. Thompson, C.I. Gibson, and Anthony Smith. Nelson was a good student and so was made a monitor at age 11. At 16, he passed the public teachers' exam and entered the teacher's training school at age 18. In the same year, he was also appointed head teacher at the school in Rum Cay.

Mr. Major remained there for a year before being transferred to Inagua in 1923, where he replaced the former teacher, C.I. Gibson. As principal there, he appointed T.G. Glover as a monitor. Mr. Glover himself went on to be one of the Bahamas' most noted teachers. In 1925, Mr. Major resigned from teaching and went into business for five years in Nassau and eleven years in Long Island.

Apparently, he was not comfortable outside the classroom and returned to teaching in 1941. C.I. Gibson had recently died, and Mr. Major again replaced him as head teacher, this time at the school in Deadman's Cay. N.G.M. Major's tenure at Deadman's Cay was the high point of his career. He set out to make that school not only the best in Long Island but in the country as well. The school consistently got top honors in the agricultural and general fairs for their farming efforts. They were also very successful in the Bahamas Junior Certificate (BJC) exams and the Bahamas Music Festivals.

Moreover, the school under Mr. Major's leadership captured some 40% of all government school awards. In 1956, T.A. Thompson, the school inspector, reported, "The school at Deadman's Cay is the leading school in the outer islands and is equal to any of the senior schools in New Providence."

In 1952, he became the supervisory head teacher of the Long Island schools, and in 1960, was appointed district inspector of schools in the southeastern islands, namely Long Island, Ragged Island, Rum Cay, Acklins, Crooked Island, Mayaguana, and Inagua. The job entailed much travel by foot, boat, car, or animal, but N.G.M. Major took his job seriously. He initiated periodical teachers' conferences to facilitate training and getting practical help. His work was very much appreciated by teachers in the area.

Outside of school, Mr. Major was a community man who loved his island home and devoted his entire life to its betterment. He served on the Board of Works and Health continuously from 1931 to 1968. He also served as a Justice of the Peace (JP) for many years and was often called upon to be acting commissioner. In recognition of his outstanding work, Mr. Major was awarded the British Empire Medal (BEM) in the 1952 Queen's Honors. Nelson and his wife, Alma (née Turnquist), had two daughters and one son. Mr. Major also had seven other children, five daughters and two sons. He died on the 14th of February, 1995, at the age of 90. The N.G.M. Major High School at Deadman's Cay, Long Island, was named in his honour.”

*taken from THE 100 MOST OUTSTANDING BAHAMIANS OF THE 20TH CENTURY  
Published by Jones Communications Limited, 2000*



## WALL OF FAME CEREMONY

THEME: "CELEBRATING PAST EXCELLENCE, INSPIRING THE FUTURE"

### MODERATORS:

MS. NIKERA CARTWRIGHT, CLASS OF 2005, TEACHER 2019 - PRESENT  
MS. ALIETH ADDERLEY, CLASS OF 2011, TEACHER 2016-2019, 2023 - PRESENT

### MUSICAL PRELUDE

MRS. CHRYSANTHEA CARTWRIGHT (PIANIST), CLASS OF 2018

### CALL TO ORDER - MODERATORS

ENTRY OF HONOREES AND SPECIAL GUESTS

### NATIONAL ANTHEM & PLEDGE

LED BY MICHAELA MAJOR, CLASS OF 2025 & CARA RODGERS, CLASS OF 2027

### INVOCATION

FR. RUEL STRACHAN (RECTOR, ST. PAUL'S ANGLICAN PARISH)

### WELCOME ADDRESS

MR. ENDAL ADDERLEY (PRINCIPAL/WOF BOARD), CLASS OF 1987

### THE OCCASION

MS. CATHY E. CARTWRIGHT (SR. MISTRESS/WOF COMMITTEE), CLASS OF 1989

### THE HISTORY OF THE SCHOOL

MS. KYLIE KNOWLES (PREFECT), CLASS OF 2025

### CULTURAL INTERLUDE

RING PLAY "OLE SCHOOL"

### REMARKS

MR. DON BARR (DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT – ECLR)  
MRS. DOMINIQUE MCCARTNEY- RUSSELL (DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION)

### INTRODUCTION OF THE BUCKLEY'S ALL-AGE SCHOOL WALL OF FAME HONOREES

STUDENTS OF NGM MAJOR HIGH SCHOOL

### SELECTION

CHORAL SPEAKING

### INTRODUCTION OF THE NGM MAJOR HIGH SCHOOL WALL OF FAME HONOREES

STUDENTS OF NGM MAJOR HIGH SCHOOL

### INTRODUCTION OF GUEST SPEAKER

MRS. LORRAINE ARMBRISTER, PERMANENT SECRETARY, MOE

WALL OF FAME CEREMONY CONT'D

**DUET**

SAMUEL DARVILLE, CLASS OF 2025 & MICHAELA MAJOR, CLASS OF 2025

**KEYNOTE SPEECH**

**HON. GLENYS HANNA MARTIN (MINISTER OF EDUCATION)**

**PRESENTATIONS TO MINISTER, PERMANENT SECRETARY  
AND DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION**

MR. ENDAL ADDERLEY, PRINCIPAL (NGM)

**CULTURAL PERFORMANCE**

DOWN HOME SKIT

**SOLO**

MICHAELA MAJOR, CLASS OF 2025

**PRESENTATIONS TO HONOREES**

**RESPONSES BY HONOREES/FAMILIES**

MRS. ELMA GARRAWAY, CLASS OF 1961,  
ON BEHALF OF BUCKLEY'S ALL-AGE SCHOOL HONOREES

MS. TONI CARTWRIGHT-SEYMOUR, CLASS OF 1998,  
ON BEHALF OF NGM MAJOR HIGH SCHOOL HONOREES

**VOTE OF THANKS**

MS. TUESDAY WHITE (WOF COMMITTEE), CLASS OF 1996

RECESSIONAL | MUSICAL POSTLUDE | TRANSITION TO THE WALL OF FAME SPACE

**AT THE WALL OF FAME**

**BLESSING OF THE WALL**

FR. RUEL STRACHAN (RECTOR, ST. PAUL'S ANGLICAN PARISH)

**UNVEILING OF THE WOF PLATES BY HONOREES/REPRESENTATIVES**

**CONGREGATIONAL HYMN**

"TO GOD BE THE GLORY"

**BENEDICTION**

MR. JERMAINE ADDERLEY (ASSOCIATE PASTOR, CHURCH OF GOD OF PROPHECY,  
BURNT GROUND)

**DISMISSAL**

PRINCIPAL ADDERLEY

OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPHS OF HONOREES & COMMITTEES/BOARDS

**REFRESHMENTS AND MUSIC**

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN

**TO GOD BE THE GLORY**

TO GOD BE THE GLORY, GREAT THINGS HE HATH DONE,  
SO LOVED HE THE WORLD THAT HE GAVE US HIS SON,  
WHO YIELDED HIS LIFE OUR REDEMPTION TO WIN,  
AND OPENED THE LIFE-GATE THAT ALL MAY GO IN.

PRAISE THE LORD, PRAISE THE LORD,  
LET THE EARTH HEAR HIS VOICE;  
PRAISE THE LORD, PRAISE THE LORD,  
LET THE PEOPLE REJOICE;  
OH, COME TO THE FATHER, THROUGH JESUS THE SON,  
AND GIVE HIM THE GLORY; GREAT THINGS HE HATH DONE.

2

OH, PERFECT REDEMPTION, THE PURCHASE OF BLOOD,  
TO EVERY BELIEVER THE PROMISE OF GOD;  
THE VILEST OFFENDER WHO TRULY BELIEVES,  
THAT MOMENT FROM JESUS A PARDON RECEIVES.

3

GREAT THINGS HE HATH TAUGHT US, GREAT THINGS HE HATH DONE,  
AND GREAT OUR REJOICING THROUGH JESUS THE SON;  
BUT PURER, AND HIGHER, AND GREATER WILL BE  
OUR WONDER, OUR TRANSPORT WHEN JESUS WE SEE.

LYRICS BY FANNY CROSBY [II] AND TUNE BY WILLIAM HOWARD DOANE, FIRST PUBLISHED IN 1875



# BUCKLEY'S ALL AGE SCHOOL 2025 INDUCTEES

**DAME IVY TURNQUEST-DUMONT, CLASS OF 1942**  
(PUBLIC SERVICE/POLITICS)

**REVEREND REX MAJOR, CLASS OF 1951**  
(RELIGION)

**MR. LAURIN KNOWLES, CLASS OF 1952**  
(INDUSTRY/SPORTS)

**H.E. HARCOURT TURNQUEST, CLASS OF 1955**  
(PUBLIC SERVICE)

**DR. MARY RITCHIE-RAMSINGH, CLASS OF 1955**  
(MEDICINE)

**MRS. ELMA KNOWLES-GARRAWAY, CLASS OF 1961**  
(EDUCATION/PUBLIC SERVICE)

**HON. TENNYSON WELLS, CLASS OF 1962**  
(BUSINESS/POLITICS)

**MRS. IRIS WELLS-PINDER, CLASS OF 1964**  
(EDUCATION)

**HON. LAWRENCE CARTWRIGHT, CLASS OF 1965**  
(EDUCATION/POLITICS)

**DR. RUTH STRACHAN-SUMNER, CLASS OF 1967**  
(EDUCATION)





# *Dame Ivy Surnquest Dumont*

CLASS OF 1942

## **DAME IVY DUMONT DCMG: BREAKING BARRIERS AS THE BAHAMAS' FIRST FEMALE GOVERNOR-GENERAL**

Dame Ivy Leona Dumont made history as the first woman to serve as Governor-General of The Commonwealth of The Bahamas, marking a significant milestone in the nation's progress. She received her formal education at Buckley's All Age School (Class of 1942) she grew up to become an exemplary leader in education, business, and public service.

Her journey began in the classroom, where she started as a student teacher and steadily advanced through various educational roles. After earning multiple academic credentials, including a Bachelor of Education from the University of Miami and a Doctorate in Public Administration from Nova University, she transitioned to the private sector at NatWest Trust Corporation.

Dame Ivy's dedication to public service led her to join the Free National Movement (FNM) as Secretary General in 1990. Following the party's victory in 1992, she served as a Senator and held several ministerial positions, including Minister of Health and Environment, and later Minister of Education and Youth. Her commitment to excellence earned her recognition from Queen Elizabeth II, who appointed her Dame Commander of the Order of St. Michael and St. George in 1995.

On November 13, 2001, Dame Ivy achieved her most notable accomplishment when she was appointed Acting Governor-General of The Bahamas, a position confirmed by the Queen on January 1, 2002. This appointment made her the first woman to hold this prestigious office, representing a breakthrough for gender equality in The Bahamas' highest levels of government.

Beyond her professional achievements, Dame Ivy maintains strong ties to her community through her involvement with Emmanuel Gospel Chapel and various women's organizations. She balances her public duties with family life as a mother of two and grandmother of four, while pursuing creative hobbies such as dressmaking and rose cultivation. Her life story serves as an inspiration, demonstrating how dedication, education, and public service can lead to groundbreaking achievements.





# Reverend Rex Major

CLASS OF 1951

## ORAL 'REX' MAJOR O.B.E. : SPIRITUAL LEADER AND AUTHOR

Oral Rex Ricardo Major, born September 6, 1935, in Long Island, Bahamas, stands as a remarkable figure who dedicated his life to Christian ministry, education, and community service. His journey began with his conversion to Christianity in 1954, leading to a lifelong commitment to spiritual leadership and social transformation.

As a pioneering educator, Major taught at Marsh Harbour Public School, where he served as headmaster from 1953 to 1956. His dedication to education continued throughout his life, eventually leading him to serve as Principal of the Commonwealth Bible College and contribute to national educational policy through his work on the National Task Force on Education.

Major's ministry work expanded beyond the Bahamas, reaching throughout the Caribbean and extending to international locations. His role as an evangelist from 1956 to 1966 laid the foundation for his later work as an international speaker and religious leader. His communication skills made him a respected voice across denominations, speaking in over 80 local churches and numerous schools throughout the Bahamas.

In his personal life, Major married Doreen Bertha Allen in 1958, raising four daughters together until her passing in 2020. His family life paralleled his growing influence in religious and civic affairs, including his significant contribution to the Bahamas' Independence Celebrations in 1973, where he offered prayers of intercession.

Major's influence extended to the written word through his weekly column "Rex Major Speaks", (1975-1992) and his published works on Bahamian society and evangelism. His educational achievements include degrees from prestigious institutions and an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree. His service was recognized with numerous awards, including the O.B.E. (Order of the British Empire) in 2018.

As a founding member of significant religious organizations and a participant in international religious conferences, Major helped shape religious discourse both locally and internationally. His work with the Council for the Congress of Evangelicals of the Caribbean (CONECAR) and the Caribbean Graduate School of Theology demonstrates his commitment to regional religious development.

Today, Oral Rex Ricardo Major's legacy continues to inspire through his 60 years of Christian ministry and community service. His life exemplifies the impact one individual can have through dedication to faith, education, and public service, making him a significant figure in Bahamian history and Christian leadership.





# Captain Laurin Knowles

CLASS OF 1952

## LAURIN KNOWLES: A LEGACY OF CRAFTSMANSHIP AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Laurin Knowles was born on January 24th, 1938 to Earl and Corabell Knowles of Mangrove Bush Long Island. He was married to Lilith “Sue” Knowles for 64 years, and their union produced eight children: six sons and two daughters

Formerly a contractor by trade, Mr. Knowles constructed many of Long Island's most notable buildings, including the Library and Museum in Buckley's and contributed to the construction of the Dr. David Simms Memorial Health Centre.

As a designer and boat builder, Mr. Knowles remained committed to keeping sloop sailing alive in The Bahamas, passing his love for the sport onto his sons. This dedication led to one of the only father-and-son combinations to win major regattas across all classes throughout The Bahamas, most noticeably at the National Family Island Regatta and the Long Island Regatta. He built numerous championship-winning sloops, including the New Susan Chase, and in 2000, he was awarded Best Overall Captain in the Class B division during the 47th National Family Island Regatta.

As a social activist, Mr. Knowles served for more than two decades on the local Town Planning Committee and at least 12 years on the School Board. Additionally, he held the position of Vice Commodore of the Long Island Sailing Club for over 20 years and remained active in various sporting and community-based organizations on Long Island.

Mr. Knowles passed away at his home on March 15th, 2025.





# H.E. Harcourt Turnquest

CLASS OF 1955

## A LEGACY OF SERVICE: -AMBASSADOR HARCOURT LOWELL TURNQUEST O.B.E (1943-2018)

H.E. Harcourt Lowell Turnquest, a distinguished Bahamian diplomat and public servant, dedicated over four decades of his life to serving the Commonwealth of The Bahamas. Born on June 3, 1943, his journey from a small-town student to an international diplomat exemplifies dedication and lifelong learning.

Beginning his education at Buckley's All Age School in Long Island, Turnquest moved to New Providence at age 14 to pursue further studies at the Technical School and Government High School. His career in public service began in 1960 when he joined the Ministry of Education as a Special Student Teacher, quickly advancing to become Acting Head Teacher at his alma mater.

Driven by his passion for education, Turnquest pursued higher studies in the United Kingdom, earning a Bachelor's Degree in Geography from the University of Swansea in 1967 and a Diploma in Education from the University of Southampton in 1968. Upon returning home, he contributed significantly to education, becoming Head of Geography at Highbury High (now R.M. Bailey) and co-authoring "Civics for The Bahamas" in 1970.

Following The Bahamas' independence, Turnquest transitioned to diplomatic service in the Ministry of External Affairs. He enhanced his expertise with a Master's Degree in International Affairs from Carleton University in Ottawa, Canada. His distinguished career included serving as Permanent Secretary in various ministries from 1986 to 1994, including the Cabinet Office, Ministry of Health, Office of the Attorney General, and Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

A highlight of his diplomatic career came in 1994 when he was appointed as The Bahamas' Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York, where he served as Vice-President during the 53rd Session of the UN General Assembly. His final diplomatic posting was as Bahamas High Commissioner to Canada.

Turnquest's commitment to public service earned him prestigious recognitions, including the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (OBE) from Queen Elizabeth II in 2009 and the Paul Adderley Medal for Excellence in 2016. Beyond his official duties, he remained actively involved in community service through the Anglican Church, the National Council for Disability, and the Kiwanis Club, later founding the Kiwanis Club of Yuma in Long Island.

Throughout his career, Ambassador Turnquest embodied the principles of professionalism, empathy, and integrity, leaving an indelible mark on Bahamian public service and diplomacy. His life story serves as an inspiration for future generations of public servants and demonstrates the impact of dedication to national development and public service.





# *Dr. Mary Ritchie Ramsingh*

CLASS OF 1955

## **DR. MARY P. RITCHIE RAMSINGH: A LEGACY OF MEDICAL SERVICE AND COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP (1944- 2001)**

Dr. Mary P. Ritchie Ramsingh was born on the 12 December 1944 in Deadman's Cay, Long Island. She attended Buckley's All Age School, The Government High School and the University of the West Indies. The tenet of service to country was instilled in Mary at a young age by her parents Arlington and Georgianna Ritchie.

Dr. Ritchie-Ramsingh became a dedicated family doctor with the support of her family and their steadfast faith in God. As a medical practitioner, she aimed to be the best in her profession and often treated her patients as extended members of her family - especially her Long Island patients.

During her life, she served as a President of the Medical Association of The Bahamas and was a founding member of the Bahamas Human Rights Association while avidly supporting political and sporting causes. She also was wife to Dr. Robert Ramsingh and mother to Catherine Ramsingh-Pierre and Margaret Ramsingh.

Dr. Ritchie-Ramsingh passed away shortly after her retirement but was known for creating beauty all around her through interior design and as an accomplished seamstress.





# Elma Knowles Garraway

CLASS OF 1961

## MRS. ELMA I. GARRAWAY MBE: A LEGACY OF EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

Mrs. Elma I. Garraway has one of the most decorated careers in education, health and public service – awarded Youth Practitioner’s Living Legend and The Most Excellent Order of the British Empire in 2018. One might describe her as the personification of excellence in education primarily for her efforts in curriculum development as well as promoting the teaching profession.

Her story began on December 5<sup>th</sup>, 1946, at Deadman’s Cay, Long Island and led to her serving as a student teacher at Buckley’s All Age School. And along the course she married Robert A. Garraway I and mothered Robert A. Garraway II, Antonia Benjamin and Anna Maria Garraway.

Of her long list of notable achievements, Mrs. Garraway served as Chairperson of the Curriculum Development and Reform; Inservice Teacher Education and Professional Development; Development of Career Path for Teachers; Let’s Read Bahamas Project; Implementation of Teacher Cadet Programme and Establishment of All Bahamas Merit Scholarship Committees at the Ministry of Education.

Additionally, throughout her career she has presented workshops to all levels of public sector employees on topics ranging from professionalism and productivity to leadership and addressing challenges of reform and transformation. Simultaneously, she maintained membership in numerous Catholic Diocese commissions, national associations and developed publications promoting the development of quality education in The Bahamas.

Along with her hobbies of reading, sewing, cooking, gardening, writing, travelling and “growing girls and young women” Mrs. Garraway is active as the Assistant Chief Commissioner of Bahamas Girl Guides Association, Chair of National Advisory Committee for Education and serves as Chief Assessor of Senior Public Officers desiring promotion among other activities.





# Hon. Tennyson Wells

CLASS OF 1962

## TENNYSON WELLS: A DISTINGUISHED BAHAMIAN LEADER (1947-2019)

Tennyson Wells, born on December 30, 1946, was a remarkable figure who left an indelible mark on the Bahamian landscape through his diverse contributions as a politician, attorney, and entrepreneur. His journey began with his early education at Buckley's All Age School (Class of 1962), BAAS from 1952 to 1962, followed by his time at St. John's College. While attending Government High School, he demonstrated an exceptional drive by balancing his A-Level studies with practical experience in banking and insurance.

His pursuit of excellence led him to St. Mary's University in Canada, where he earned his Bachelor's Degree in Economics in 1971. Continuing his academic achievements, he attended the University of London and was called to the Bar in 1972. Upon returning to The Bahamas, Wells established the prestigious law firm Wells, Wells & Campbell, showcasing his entrepreneurial spirit and legal expertise.

In the political arena, Wells served with distinction as the Member of Parliament for Bamboo Town for more than 15 years. His dedication to public service was evident through his roles as Minister of Agriculture and Attorney General of The Bahamas.

Beyond politics, Wells was a successful businessman who ventured into real estate development, the fuel and gas industry, and various other business enterprises. As a devoted member of St. John's Anglican Church, Wells remained deeply connected to his community, implementing numerous support programs that benefited Bahamian society. His commitment to public service extended far beyond his political career, as he consistently worked to improve the lives of his fellow citizens.

Until his passing in 2020, Tennyson Wells exemplified the qualities of a true public servant and successful entrepreneur. His legacy continues to inspire future generations of Bahamians, demonstrating how dedication, diversified expertise, and community engagement can create lasting positive change in society. Through his work in law, politics, business, and community service, Wells helped shape the modern Bahamas and contributed significantly to its development across both public and private sectors.





# Iris Wells Pinder

CLASS OF 1964

## IRIS L. PINDER: TRANSFORMING EDUCATION THROUGH VISIONARY LEADERSHIP

Iris L. Pinder has dedicated over four decades to education, leaving a lasting impact on The Bahamas. Born in Deadman's Cay, Long Island, to Cleveland and Emma Wells, she was raised on Christian values –honesty, love, respect, and hard work. As she says, “Good parents know the way, show the way, and go the way”—a belief that shaped her educational philosophy.

Educated at Buckleys All Age School and The Government High School on scholarship, Iris earned an Endorsed Teachers' Certificate and an Honours B.A. from the University of the West Indies. She later received an Honours M.Sc. in Education from the University of Miami and completed specialized training in Public Service Leadership and Management.

Her career began in 1968 as a trained teacher at Buckleys All Age School, progressing to leadership roles including Vice Principal, Acting Principal, and eventually Director of Education (1997–2007). In this role, she spearheaded major reforms: decentralizing the education system into 13 districts, introducing School Boards, implementing curriculum upgrades, integrating technology, and supporting Special Education and Magnet Programs.

Iris's legacy includes development of the Safe School Manual, updated teacher and administrator guides, school-based Resource Centers, and expanded training for educators. She also influenced national policy, serving as Sub-Committee Chair for the 2021 National High School Diploma revision and as a facilitator with the College of The Bahamas IEL Program.

She is the proud mother of two daughters: Tai Pinder Mackey, a Senior Partner at Pinder, Reckley & Co., and Dr. Tiffany Anne Coleman, a research scientist. She was predeceased by her husband, Gary Albert Pinder.

Her honors include:

- Commonwealth of The Bahamas Silver Jubilee Award (Education)
- Woman of the Year, Grand Bahama (1994)
- Cancer Society of The Bahamas Honoree (2017, 2018)

Her service work includes:

- Founding President, Long Island Branch of the Cancer Society
- Treasurer, St. Paul's Parish Church (2008–2017)
- President & Member, St. John's Anglican Church Women Ministry
- Developer, Youth Development Program for South Long Island

In her leisure, she enjoys gardening, fishing, reading, crossword puzzles, and connecting with loved ones on social media.





# Hon. Lawrence Cartwright

CLASS OF 1965

## LAWRENCE S. CARTWRIGHT- CMG: A LIFE OF SERVICE

Lawrence “Larry” Cartwright was born to Emma [nee Wells] and Delbert Cartwright in Grays, Long Island on January 19, 1948. He attended Gray’s and Buckley’s Public Schools and early on decided to enter the teaching profession. He attended Bahamas Teachers’ College and later attained his Bachelor’s Degree in Educational Administration from UWI.

He travelled to several islands of The Bahamas as both a teacher and later a principal, accompanied by his wife, Ann who was also a teacher. In 1980, he returned to Long Island as Senior Master at N.G.M. High. He transferred to Glintons All Age School, Long Island, as Principal in 1981 and in 1986 returned to N.G.M. Major High to succeed E.L. Carwright as Principal. He combined the roles of Principal and Acting District Education Officer for several years.

In 1999, he retired from Education and in 2002 was elected as M.P. for Long Island. He served in the F.N.M. Government of 2007- 2012 as Cabinet Minister responsible for Agriculture and Fisheries. He retired in 2012 but was called out of retirement to take up the position of Consul General in New York. He finally retired in 2021 and returned to his native Long Island.

Larry, as he is affectionately known, has always taken a keen interest in sports. He has worked tirelessly for the L.I. Softball Association as both Chief Umpire and President, L.I. Sports Council as President and Vice President and L.I. Regatta Committee as Secretary, Vice Commodore and Commodore.

Larry was raised to be honest, patient and respectful to his Elders and Authority. He continues to believe that ‘Your Word is Your Bond’ and has endeavored to perform at his best in whatever field he has been called to. He is a devout Anglican: a Catechist in the Anglican Church and a member of the Diocesan Council.

He and Ann are parents of three sons, Graeme, Marvin and Cleophus. They have several grandchildren.

Although he continues to work diligently in many voluntary activities, he is glad to have the time to devote to his pastimes of fishing, farming, reading, surfing the web and passing on his values to the next generations.

The Honorable Lawrence Cartwright is being honored for his contributions to both Education and to Bahamian Political Life.





# *Dr. Ruth Strachan Sumner*

CLASS OF 1967

## **DR. RUTH SUMNER: SHAPING EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE IN THE BAHAMAS**

Dr. Ruth Sumner stands as a remarkable figure in Bahamian education, whose journey began in the humble setting of Deadmans Cay, Long Island. Her educational path started at Buckley's All Age School, (Class of 1967) and continued through St. John's College High School in Nassau. After graduating from San Salvador Teachers' College, she pursued higher education with unwavering determination, earning her Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education from the University of Miami in 1980.

Her academic achievements continued to soar as she completed her Master's Degree in Education with a Specialization in Language Arts/Literacy in 1985, followed by a Ph.D. in Elementary Education focusing on Literacy Learning from the University of Alberta in 1998. During her time at the University of Alberta, she achieved distinction as one of the first recipients of the "Excellence in Teaching and Learning Award", an honor she received twice while studying as a Canadian Commonwealth Scholar.

In 1987, Dr. Sumner began what would become a transformative 30-year career at the University of The Bahamas (formerly the College of The Bahamas). Her leadership roles were numerous and impactful, serving as the longest-standing Chair of the School of Education and later as Dean of the Faculty of Social and Educational Studies. She also played a crucial role in shaping the institution's future as a member of the first Strategic Plan Development Committee.

Throughout her career, Dr. Sumner has made lasting contributions to education in The Bahamas. She pioneered the development of the first Master's in Reading programme and secured a \$250,000 grant from the Bank of The Bahamas to establish a Literacy Centre. Her influence extended beyond national borders as she represented The Bahamas in international organizations including UNESCO and the Organization of American States.

Today, Dr. Sumner continues to serve education and her community in multiple capacities. She remains an adjunct faculty member at the University of The Bahamas and serves as Assistant Chairperson of Project Read. As founder and President of the Bahamas Literacy Association and President of the Bahamas Girl Guides Association, she demonstrates an unwavering commitment to community development. She also maintains strong ties to her roots through her involvement with the Long Islanders' Association.

Married to fellow educator Leroy Sumner, she is a mother of four and grandmother to nine children - eight boys and one girl. Dr. Sumner's legacy in Bahamian education serves as an inspiring example of dedication, leadership, and community service, influencing generations of educators and professionals throughout The Bahamas and beyond.



# NGM MAJOR HIGH SCHOOL 2025 INDUCTEES

**MR. FRED FERGUSON, CLASS OF 1976**  
(MUSIC)

**MRS. RACHEL FARQUHARSON-CULMER, CLASS OF 1977**  
(LAW)

**MR. MARIO CARTWRIGHT, CLASS OF 1980**  
(BUSINESS)

**MR. IAN KNOWLES, CLASS OF 1983**  
(COMMUNITY SERVICE)

**MR. MARTY FOX, CLASS OF 1987**  
(AVIATION)

**MS. JULIE KNOWLES, CLASS OF 1989**  
(EDUCATION)

**RT. REVEREND KENDRICK FORBES, CLASS OF 1993**  
(RELIGION)

**MRS. VERNETTA ROLLE-SMITH, CLASS OF 1994**  
(SPORTS)

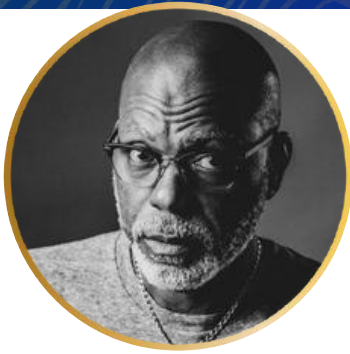
**MS. TONI CARTWRIGHT-SEYMOUR, CLASS OF 1998**  
(PUBLIC SERVICE/ENERGY)

**MR. STEFAN KNOWLES, CLASS OF 2000**  
(INDUSTRY/SPORTS)



# Fred Ferguson

CLASS OF 1976



## FRED FERGUSON: A BAHAMIAN MUSICAL LEGACY

Fred B. Ferguson stands as a towering figure in the Bahamian entertainment industry, with a remarkable career spanning over four decades. His musical journey began organically in his childhood when he demonstrated natural talent by teaching himself various instruments available in his home and community.

After graduating from NGM Major High School as its first Head Boy in 1976, Ferguson refined his musical abilities performing with local bands across Nassau and the Family Islands. A pivotal moment came in 1982 when he joined High Voltage, later known as Baha Men, serving as their Music Director for 16 years.

Ferguson's influence extends far beyond his band career. As a producer and songwriter, he has collaborated with numerous prominent Bahamian artists including Ronnie Butler, Sweet Emily, and Eddie Minnis. His instrumental album "Fresh Paint", featuring Bahamian songs, remains a unique contribution to the country's musical landscape.

His artistic vision expanded into theater, where he made significant contributions to Bahamian performing arts. He arranged music for "Der Real Ting" and produced "Junkanoo in Paradise", the first fully Bahamian musical drama production, which ran successfully at The Atlantis for two seasons.

Ferguson's expertise has been sought for national events, including multiple Independence Day celebrations and the Memorial Tribute to Sir Sidney Poitier. His dedication to preserving Bahamian cultural heritage is evident in his work on "The Virtuoso from Small Hope", a video biography of Joseph Spence, and his ongoing commitment to developing Rake 'N Scrape and Junkanoo music.

Currently serving as a Board Member for the Central Alabama Caribbean American Organization (CACAO) representing The Bahamas, Ferguson continues to champion Bahamian culture. His contributions to the arts were recently recognized with a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Bahamian Elevation Awards, cementing his legacy as a crucial figure in Bahamian musical history.

Through his work as a musician, producer, director, and cultural ambassador, Fred Ferguson exemplifies the rich potential of Bahamian artistry remaining dedicated both to preserving and advancing his nation's musical heritage.



# Rachel Farquharson Culmer

CLASS OF 1977



## RACHEL LOUISE CULMER: A LEGACY OF LEGAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Rachel Louise Culmer, born on December 12, 1961, in Gray's, Long Island, exemplifies dedication, perseverance, and community service. Raised in Lower Deadman's Cay, Long Island, by Paulus and Iris Farquharson, Rachel's early life was shaped by strong family values emphasizing respect, obedience, gratitude, and kindness.

Her educational journey began at Gray's All Age and Lower Deadman's Cay Primary, followed by N.G.M. Major High School (Class of 1977), where she actively participated in various activities, including the National Music & Arts Festival and sports teams. She made history as the first Miss N.G.M. and was among three students who passed the inaugural Home Economics BJC exam.

Despite financial constraints preventing overseas university education, Rachel pursued her legal career through alternative paths. She began as an Accounts Clerk at CitiTrust Bahamas Ltd. in 1979, progressing through roles as a Legal Secretary and Office Manager. Her determination led her to complete studies at the College of The Bahamas (now University of The Bahamas) and the Bahamas Bar Association Article Ship Program.

Today, Rachel serves as a Senior Partner at McKay, Culmer & Associates, specializing in Corporate Law, Family Law, Probate, Immigration Matters, and Conveyancing. Her professional achievements include recognition from the Bahamas Bar Association and service on the Judicial Legal Services Commission. She has held leadership positions in various legal organizations, including the Bahamas Bar Council and the Organization of Commonwealth Caribbean Bar Associations.

Married to Dr. Kirtland Culmer, Rachel is a mother and grandmother. Though she lost her son Kirtland Culmer II, she takes pride in her daughters Raquel Wilson and Kristen, and her five grandchildren. Her commitment to community service shines through her work with the Zonta Club of Nassau, various children's homes, and her dedication to providing legal aid to the underprivileged, elderly, and handicapped.

As she approaches retirement after nearly 50 years, Rachel's legacy extends beyond her legal practice. She has mentored hundreds of attorneys and continues to impact her community through presentations on legal matters affecting families. Her story demonstrates that with determination and hard work, one can overcome circumstances to achieve professional excellence while maintaining a commitment to family and community service.



# Mario Cartwright

CLASS OF 1980



## MARIO CARTWRIGHT-A LEGACY OF BUSINESS LEADERSHIP AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Mario Cartwright's life exemplifies dedication to business excellence and community development in The Bahamas. Born in 1963 to educator parents in Scrub Hill, Long Island, his early years were marked by diverse educational experiences across multiple Bahamian islands, including Inagua, Grand Bahama, and Eleuthera, before completing his studies at N.G.M. Major High School (Class of 1980).

His pursuit of academic excellence led him to earn a Bachelor of Science Degree from Fort Lauderdale College and achieve his C.P.A. certification from the Colorado State Board of Accountancy. His professional journey began at KPMG in Nassau, where he honed his accounting expertise. He later advanced to the role of Financial Controller and Human Resources Manager at Crompton Knowles Chemical Company in Freeport, Grand Bahama, demonstrating his versatility in business management.

The year 2000 marked a significant turning point when Cartwright returned to his roots in Long Island. There, he established several successful enterprises, including the Flying Fish Marina and Yuma Oil and Gas Ltd, followed by Bayside Service Station Ltd. Though he sold the Marina in 2012, he continues to serve his community as a fuel distributor for Sun Oil [Shell] in Long Island.

Cartwright's commitment to community service is evident through his involvement with the Rotary Club, where he was honored as a "Paul Harris Fellow" by the Freeport's Sunrise Rotary Club. His dedication to local economic development led him to co-found the Long Island Chamber of Commerce, where he served as President, working to strengthen the island's business community.

Beyond his professional achievements, Cartwright maintains strong ties to his community through his membership at the Cartwrights Gospel Chapel, alongside his wife Claudia, a fellow Long Islander. His deep appreciation for Long Island's natural beauty and his love for beach combing along its shores reflect his connection to his homeland.

Mario Cartwright stands as a model of entrepreneurial success and civic responsibility, honored for his significant contributions to Long Island's commercial development and his exemplary citizenship. His story demonstrates how business acumen combined with community service can create lasting positive impact in one's homeland.



# Ian Knowles

CLASS OF 1983



## IAN KNOWLES: A LEGACY OF SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP

Ian Knowles hails from the settlement of Buckley's and is the third son of Mr. and Mrs. Laurin Knowles of Mangrove Bush. He was raised by his grandparents Alonso and Veronica Cartwright (deceased). He received his early education at Mangrove Bush Primary School and later attended N.G.M Major High School where he was selected Head Boy 1982-83 and graduated with numerous BJC's and GCE's.

Mr. Knowles went into the fishing industry for a year prior to gaining employment at the then named BaTelCo in 1984. He was employed at BTC for over 30 years and has received certification in Electronics Engineering Technology from Cleveland Institute via correspondence courses. He has traveled extensively for training in Cellular, Radio Transmission Payphone, Switching, Data and DSL and was responsible for Radio, Switching, Data, DSL, MIS; Cellular equipment in Long Island.

Additionally, Mr. Knowles served as Technical Manager for The Family Islands and Senior Manager for Long Island and the Southeast Islands. Since graduating from high school, he has been involved in the church and served as a Lay Reader and Treasurer of St. John's Anglican Church. He was a Vestry Member and the Treasurer of St. Paul's Parish for several years.

He has served as the Chairman of the Licensing Authority, member of the Port Authority, member of the Board of Works and Hotel Authority. In 1996, he became a member of Local Government and served as the Chief Councillor from 2002 to present for the District of Long Island. He is a former Vice President of BALGA (Bahamas Association of Local Government Authorities). He was also the former Chairman of the Local Health Committee for Long Island for several years. He is the Secretary for the Mangrove Bush Burial Society, is associated with other organizations and served as a member of the National Sports Council of the Bahamas.

He is the proud father of four sons and one daughter. He is an avid sailor and competes in Regattas throughout the Bahamas and enjoys repairing electronics. Mr. Knowles can always be relied on to assist wherever or whenever needed but his greatest desire is to serve and assist the people of Long Island.



# Julie Knowles

CLASS OF 1989



## JULIE JANE KNOWLES: SHAPING ART EDUCATION IN THE BAHAMAS

Julie Jane Knowles stands as a remarkable figure in Bahamian education, particularly in the realm of visual arts. Born and raised in Long Island, Bahamas, to Ruth Elizabeth Wells Knowles and Chester Alexander Knowles, she emerged from humble beginnings in Mangrove Bush to become a transformative force in art education.

Her educational journey began at local institutions - Mangrove Bush Primary, Lower Deadman's Cay Primary, and N.G.M Major High School. These early experiences would later influence her approach to education. The core values of commitment, punctuality, and humility, instilled by her parents, became the cornerstone of her professional philosophy.

Currently, Knowles serves as the Education Officer for Visual Arts at the Ministry of Education, where she plays a pivotal role in shaping the nation's artistic future. Her responsibilities include developing the Visual Arts Curriculum, managing the country's Visual Arts Program, coordinating teacher placements, and conducting professional development workshops.

Her excellence in education earned recognition when she received the Teacher of the Year award for Exuma, Ragged Island, and the Cays (2017-2019). As a single mother to Rebecca Elizabeth Knowles Parotti, she has successfully balanced her professional achievements with personal responsibilities.

Knowles's vision extends beyond traditional education. She aims to establish a studio preparing students for prestigious institutions like SCAD Savannah School of Art and Design, focusing on diverse fields including Visual Effects, Industrial Design, and Fashion Marketing. Her community involvement includes directing school choirs, organizing art exhibitions, creating backdrops for various institutions, and coaching sports teams.

Drawing inspiration from nature, Knowles enjoys outdoor activities such as fishing, boating, and beach activities. She views nature as the ultimate artistic canvas, incorporating this appreciation into her teaching philosophy. Her ongoing legacy continues to shape the artistic landscape of the Bahamas, inspiring future generations of artists and educators through her dedication to both artistic excellence and personal development.



# Marty Fox

CLASS OF 1987



## DWAYNE MARTY FOX: PILOT EXTRAORDINAIRE

Dwayne Marty Fox was born on September 9, 1970, in Salt Pond, Long Island, to parents Basil and Dorothea Fox. He received his early education at Salt Pond All-Age School for grades 1-8, followed by NGM Major for grades 10-12. Mr. Fox is a dedicated family man and father to three sons: Marty Alexander Fox, (also a pilot) Isaac Dustin Fox and Ethan Basil Fox.

As the President and Owner of Island Wings Charter, Mr. Fox has established himself as a prominent figure in Caribbean aviation. His company provides crucial air transportation services connecting The Bahamas, the Caribbean, and the United States. This service has become essential for the archipelagic region's connectivity and development. His professional training includes specialized flight instruction at Flight Safety International.

Mr. Fox's success is built upon three fundamental principles: work before play, treat others as you would like to be treated and nothing good comes easy.

His ongoing career goal focuses on expanding aviation services demonstrating his commitment to regional development and connectivity. Mr. Fox's most significant accomplishment has been establishing and growing a successful aviation company that provides essential transportation services across the Caribbean region. His current base of operation is Stella Maris, Long Island, Bahamas.

Outside of his professional life, Mr. Fox maintains an active lifestyle through sailing, softball, baseball and spearfishing. Mr. Fox is a proud member of the graduating class of 1987 and is recognized for his contributions and success in the field of aviation.



# Bishop Kendrick Forbes

CLASS OF 1993



## BISHOP KENDRICK J. FORBES: A JOURNEY OF FAITH AND SERVICE

The Most Reverend Kendrick J. Forbes, currently serving as the Bishop of Roseau in the Commonwealth of Dominica, exemplifies a life dedicated to religious service and community leadership. Born on August 20, 1975, in Nassau, Bahamas, to Cheryl Newman and Kermit Forbes, his early years were spent in Clarence Town, Long Island, where he lived with his maternal grandparents, John and Hazel Newman.

His educational journey began at Clarence Town All Age School, followed by N.G.M. Major High (Class of 1993). Pursuing his calling to priesthood, Forbes relocated to Indiana, United States, where he attended St. Meinrad College Seminary, earning a Bachelor's Degree in History. His theological education continued at St. Meinrad School of Theology, where he obtained both Master of Divinity and Master of Theology degrees.

On June 11, 2002, Forbes was ordained as a priest in Nassau. He further enhanced his religious education by earning a Licentiate in Canon Law from the Catholic University of America. Affectionately known as Father Kenny, he served in various significant roles within the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Nassau, including Rector at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral (2005-2006), Pastor of Holy Family Church (2006-2009), and Pastor of St. Paul the Apostle Church (2009-2024). His leadership abilities were recognized when he was appointed Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Nassau in 2015.

Throughout his religious career, Forbes demonstrated commitment not only to his church but also to broader social service. He contributed significantly to numerous Church Committees, including the Catholic Board of Education and the Diaconate Training Committee. His service extended to national bodies, where he served on the Judges' Remuneration and Pension Commission, the Rehabilitation of Offenders Committee, and the Public Disclosure Committee. Forbes's dedication and service culminated in his appointment by Pope Francis as Bishop of the Diocese of Roseau in Dominica on May 2, 2024, followed by his ordination on July 25, 2024. This appointment marks a significant milestone in his religious career and continues his legacy of faith-based leadership and community service.



# Vernetta Rolle Smith

CLASS OF 1994



## A LEGACY OF EXCELLENCE: VERNETTA ROLLE-SMITH (1976-2005)

Vernetta Rolle-Smith's remarkable journey began on January 9th, 1976, in Long Island, where she was born to Maria Brown and Vincent Rolle. From her earliest days at Lower Deadman's Cay Primary and N.G.M. Major High School (Class of 1993), she demonstrated exceptional athletic prowess, particularly in track and field. Her natural talent and dedication led her to set remarkable records, including the 1998 U.S. collegiate women's 800-meter record and the Bahamas' National Record with a time of 2:04.82.

Her pursuit of excellence extended beyond athletics. After completing high school, Vernetta attended Southern University before transferring to the University of Houston, where she earned a Bachelor of Science in Hotel and Restaurant Management in 2001. Her professional journey began with The Marriott Corporation, but her true calling emerged when she discovered her passion for education. As a sixth-grade mathematics teacher at Jane Long Middle School in Houston, Texas, she brought the same determination and enthusiasm that characterized her athletic career to her classroom.

Vernetta's personal life was equally rich and fulfilling. She was a devoted wife to Paul L. Smith and a loving mother to their children, Paul K. Smith Jr. and Maria B. Smith. She masterfully balanced her roles as an athlete, educator, wife, and mother, demonstrating remarkable strength and grace in all her endeavors.

Throughout her life, Vernetta was more than just an accomplished athlete and educator; she was a mentor and inspiration to those around her. She dedicated time to guiding younger teammates, instilling in them the values of perseverance and hard work that had shaped her own success.

Tragically, Vernetta's life was cut short when she passed away from breast cancer on May 10, 2005, at just 29 years old. Her induction into the N.G.M. Major High School Wall of Fame serves as a testament to her enduring legacy. Vernetta Rolle-Smith's life, though brief, exemplified the profound impact one individual can have through dedication, leadership, and an unwavering commitment to excellence. Her story continues to inspire future generations, reminding us that true greatness lies not just in personal achievements, but in the positive influence we have on others.



# Toni Cartwright Seymour

CLASS OF 1998



## TONI CARTWRIGHT SEYMOUR : A VISIONARY LEADER

As a proud native of Long Island and alumna of NGM Major High School, Toni Cartwright-Seymour is setting the pace as the first Bahamian woman to serve as Chief Executive Officer of Bahamas Power and Light Company Limited (BPL). Her entire career is dedicated to innovation, sustainability, and operational excellence in efforts to promote sustainability in energy for The Bahamas.

Ms. Cartwright-Seymour's academic pursuits at the former College of The Bahamas led her to attain an Associate Degree in Physics and Chemistry and then a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical and Aeronautical Design Engineering from the University of Brighton, England.

Beginning her journey at BEC/BPL as part of the esteemed Engineer-In-Training program, she eventually took on leadership roles that shaped the company's infrastructure. She has led transformative projects, including the Wilson City Power Plant project in Abaco and essential Family Island grid upgrades. Recently, she completed Harvard Business School's Advanced Management Program thus strengthening her leadership capabilities.

Further, Ms. Cartwright-Seymour is driving key initiatives such as the Family Island Microgrids and Renewable Energy Projects, the New Providence Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs), and critical transmission and distribution upgrades integrating solar energy. Her dedication to leadership is proving to advance BPL's mission to provide safe, reliable, and cost-effective electricity while fostering a cleaner, more sustainable future.

Beyond her professional achievements, Ms. Cartwright Seymour is a devoted mother to her son, Ryan, who remains her greatest source of inspiration and motivation.



# Stefan Knowles

CLASS OF 2000



## STEFAN KNOWLES: ENGINEERING EXCELLENCE

Stefan Jonathan Knowles, born on October 10, 1983, in Nassau, Bahamas, exemplifies how dedication to education, professional excellence, and community service can create lasting impact. Raised in Mangrove Bush, Long Island, Knowles was instilled with strong family values of love, respect, honor, sharing, and forgiveness by his parents, Laurin and Lillith “Sue” Knowles.

His educational journey began at Mangrove Bush Primary and continued through NGM Major High School. Pursuing higher education, he attended the College of the Bahamas before earning his Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Lehigh University in 2005. His commitment to professional excellence led him to achieve Professional Engineer Certification in Civil Geotechnical Engineering in both Florida and The Bahamas by 2012.

Currently serving as President of SJK Engineering & Construction Services Ltd., Knowles has contributed significantly to the Bahamas’ infrastructure through various construction projects. His expertise and leadership were recognized with his appointment to the Fiscal Responsibility Council in 2025.

Beyond his professional achievements, Knowles is deeply involved in community service. He actively participates in the Long Island Sailing Club and Long Islanders’ Association, while supporting various organizations, churches, and schools. His passion for sailing has led him to compete and win in numerous regattas throughout the Bahamas, contributing to the advancement of national sports.

A family man, Knowles is married to Krista Burrows and is a father to Lacey, Kahden, Whitney, Stefanie, and Stefan. His personal interests include sailing, boating, fishing, and traveling, reflecting his connection to the maritime heritage of the Bahamas.

In recognition of his contributions to industry and sports, Knowles, a member of the Class of 2000, is being celebrated for his role in industry and sports and for advancing Bahamian society and inspiring future generations.



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**WALL OF  
FAME**

# WALL OF FAME ORGANIZATION

## SENIOR ADVISORY TEAM

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## WALL OF FAME BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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2022 - PRESENT

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# THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION NGM MAJOR HIGH SCHOOL

IN RECOGNITION OF THIS AUSPICIOUS OCCASION—THE UNVEILING OF **THE WALL OF FAME AT N.G.M. MAJOR HIGH SCHOOL**—WE PROUDLY ACKNOWLEDGE AND CELEBRATE THE HONORED INDUCTEES REPRESENTING BOTH BUCKLEY'S ALL-AGE SCHOOL AND N.G.M. MAJOR HIGH SCHOOL.

AS THIS HISTORIC EVENT MARKS A SIGNIFICANT CHAPTER IN OUR EDUCATIONAL AND COMMUNITY LEGACY, IT IS IMPORTANT TO ALSO DOCUMENT THOSE CURRENTLY SERVING THE SCHOOL TO DATE, WHO CONTINUE TO UPHOLD ITS VALUES AND MISSION. LISTED BELOW ARE THE DEDICATED TEACHING AND SUPPORT STAFF PRESENTLY ON TENURE AT N.G.M. MAJOR HIGH SCHOOL.

## TEACHING STAFF

MS. ALIETH ADDERLEY	FR. PHILIP HIELD JR.
MS. JENNIFER CARTWRIGHT	MR. ORLANDO URGELLES MARTINEZ
MS. KIMBERLY CARTWRIGHT	MRS. ANTONIA NIXON CARROLL
MS. NIKERA CARTWRIGHT	MS. SHEENAGH ROMER
MRS. SHARICKA CARTWRIGHT	MR. YOSDANY CASANOLA SARDINA
MR. ANSELM CHEA	MS. ANGEL SHERMAN
MS. JANAEE MAE FERGUSON	MRS. STEPHANIE TURNQUEST
MR. DANIEL ROJAS HERNANDEZ	MR. ANTHONY K. WILLIAMS
MS. ANTOINETTE FERGUSON	MR. DERAL J. WELLS
	MS. ANTHIA KNOWLES

## CLERICAL / SUPPORT STAFF

MRS. ALETHEA BURROWS  
MRS. KENDRA CARTWRIGHT  
MS. MONIQUE CARTWRIGHT  
MRS. JENNYILEE ROLLE  
MRS. FRANKLEE TAYLOR

THEIR CONTINUED SERVICE STANDS AS A TESTAMENT TO THE ENDURING COMMITMENT TO EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE ON LONG ISLAND. MAY THIS RECORD SERVE NOT ONLY AS A TRIBUTE TO THOSE WHO HAVE PAVED THE WAY BUT ALSO TO THOSE WHO CONTINUE TO WALK THE PATH OF PURPOSE AND LEGACY.



# Congratulations



We are beyond thrilled and proud to celebrate Dr. Ruth Sumner, our beloved wife and mother, as one of the inaugural nominees for the Wall of Fame at NGM Major High School. Your dedication, passion, and unwavering commitment to education have touched countless lives over your remarkable fifty-year career as a professor and educator.

Your brilliance and kindness have inspired not only your students but also us, your family. We have witnessed firsthand the love and effort you pour into your work, and it is heartening to see your achievements recognized on such a prestigious platform.

Congratulations on this well-deserved honour. Your legacy will continue to inspire future generations, and we are so grateful to share this moment of pride and joy with you.

With all our love,  
Your Husband and Children



# Congratulations

To Dr. Ruth Sumner (President of the Bahamas Literacy Association) and Mrs. Elma Garraway (Patron of the Bahamas Literacy Association) on a well-deserved recognition to be showcased on the N.G.M. Major High School Wall of Fame. Your lifelong contributions to education and national development continue to inspire us all.



**Dr. Ruth Sumner**  
President - Bahamas Literacy Association



**Mrs. Elma Garraway**  
Patron - Bahamas Literacy Association



# Congratulations!



Congratulations to Ms. Elma Garraway  
and All Wall of Fame Honorees

We celebrate your well-deserved recognition and thank you for your lasting contributions to N.G.M. Major High School, Long Island, and The Bahamas.

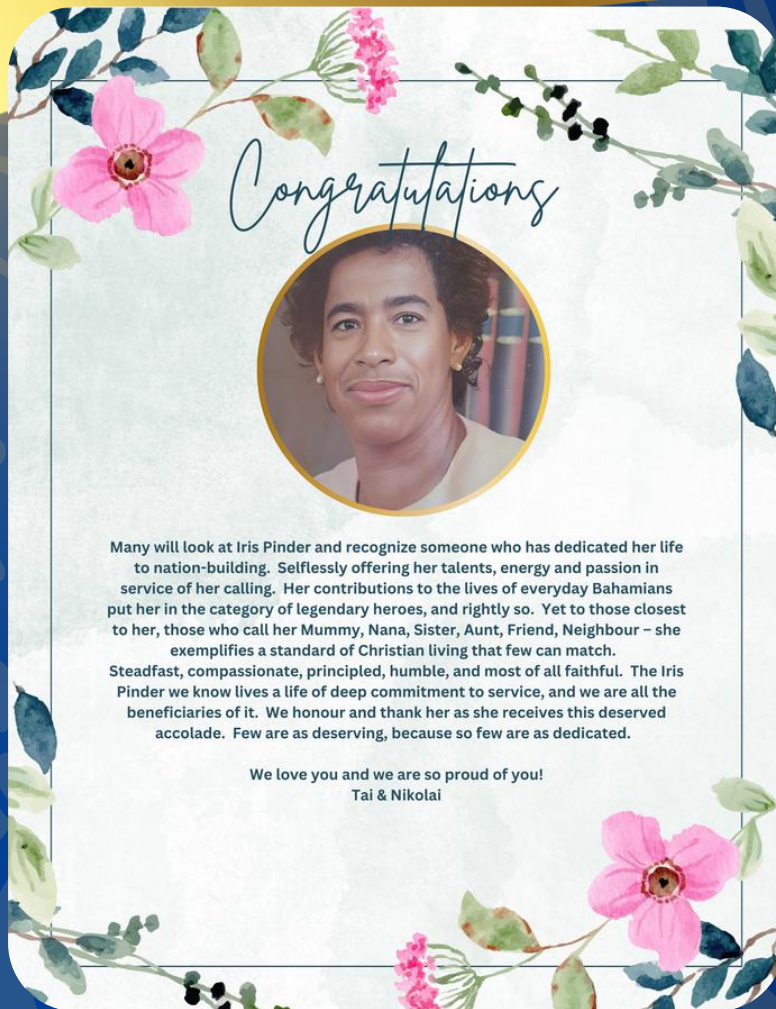
*Wishing you continued success!*

Mrs. Harriet Pratt  
C-PRA Rubis Carmichael



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# WALL OF FAME



# *Congratulations*



Many will look at Iris Pinder and recognize someone who has dedicated her life to nation-building. Selflessly offering her talents, energy and passion in service of her calling. Her contributions to the lives of everyday Bahamians put her in the category of legendary heroes, and rightly so. Yet to those closest to her, those who call her Mummy, Nana, Sister, Aunt, Friend, Neighbour – she exemplifies a standard of Christian living that few can match. Steadfast, compassionate, principled, humble, and most of all faithful. The Iris Pinder we know lives a life of deep commitment to service, and we are all the beneficiaries of it. We honour and thank her as she receives this deserved accolade. Few are as deserving, because so few are as dedicated.

We love you and we are so proud of you!  
Tai & Nikolai



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# WALL OF FAME



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# WALL OF FAME



# *Congratulations*



Congratulations Mommy!

We are so incredibly proud of you for being selected for the Buckley's All-Age School Wall of Fame! This well-deserved recognition is a testament to your unwavering passion and dedication to education. Your impact extends far beyond the classroom – shaping not only your students' lives but also inspiring all of us who have had the privilege of learning from you. The name Iris Pinder truly embodies what it means to be an educator, and we couldn't be more grateful for the legacy you continue to build.

We love you!  
Tiffany, Stanley, Taylor and Scarlett

# THANKS & APPRECIATION

ON BEHALF OF N.G.M. MAJOR HIGH SCHOOL AND BUCKLEY'S ALL-AGE SCHOOL, WE EXTEND OUR DEEPEST GRATITUDE TO ALL THOSE WHO PLAYED A ROLE IN BRINGING THIS MOMENTOUS OCCASION TO LIFE.

WHILE ALL NAMES MAY NOT BE LISTED, PLEASE KNOW THAT EVERY BIT OF ENERGY, TIME, AND EFFORT CONTRIBUTED TO THIS HEARTFELT AND HISTORIC EVENT IS SINCERELY APPRECIATED. THIS WALL OF FAME MARKS A MEANINGFUL MILESTONE IN OUR COMMUNITY'S LEGACY HERE ON LONG ISLAND—A CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE, PRIDE, AND PURPOSE.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO THE YEARS AHEAD, WATCHING THIS WALL GROW WITH THE NAMES OF OTHER PROUD LONG ISLANDERS WHO ONCE WALKED THE HALLS OF THIS CHERISHED INSTITUTION.

WE ARE FORTUNATE TO CARRY A LEGACY THAT REACHES FAR BEYOND OUR SHORES, AND TODAY, WE ARE PROUD TO HONOR AND DISPLAY IT RIGHT HERE ON OUR SCHOOL GROUNDS.



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FAME



